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FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1967
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 2687
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1980
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS CANBERRA 000055

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

EAP/MLS, F, NSC FOR ELIZABETH PHU

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE ON EXTENSION OF
THE TCG

REF: STATE 03932

¶1. (SBU) On January 16, Poloff delivered U.S. talking points on the extension of the Mandate of the Tripartite Core Group (TCG) to Jeannie Henderson, Director for Burma at the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and to Jillian Ray, filling in for Sue Nelson, her equivalent at AusAID. Both Australian agency representatives agreed that the extension of the TCG is an important goal of Australian policy and that the issue will be raised with all the concerned parties at the Humanitarian Task Force meeting scheduled for January 17.

¶2. (SBU) Ms. Henderson emphasized that the Australian embassy in Rangoon has been working in tandem with their American colleagues and that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade had sent out talking points on this issue to their diplomatic delegations on Monday, January 13. The Australian points follow the American points methodically: they also want to extend the TCG's mandate, but for two (vice one) -- until 2011.

MCCALLUM